

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY**

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Investigation by the Department of Public    )  
Utilities on its own motion regarding        )  
(1) implementation of Section 276 of the       )  
Telecommunications Act of 1996 relative to   )  
Public Interest Payphones, (2) Entry and     )  
Exit Barriers for the Payphone Marketplace, )  
(3) New England Telephone and Telegraph    )  
Company d/b/a NYNEX's Public Access        )  
Smart-Pay Line Service, and (4) the rate     )  
policy for operator service providers        )  
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**D.P.U./D.T.E. 97-88/18 (Phase II)**

**VERIZON MASSACHUSETTS'**  
**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Verizon Massachusetts ("Verizon MA") requests that the Department grant an extension of time to file reply comments in this proceeding. Under the current procedural schedule, parties must file reply comments no later than May 13, 2003. Verizon MA requests an extension of *four* business days – until May 19, 2003. That request should be granted for the following reasons.

First, the additional time is necessary to afford Verizon MA an adequate opportunity to review fully the data presented by New England Public Communications Council ("NEPCC") in its initial comments. Verizon MA's request for four additional business days is fair and reasonable in light of the new analyses and computations developed by NEPCC in that filing.

Second, the Department has previously modified the procedural schedule in this proceeding - and most recently granted NEPCC's request for an extension to file initial comments. Verizon MA requests a modest extension, by comparison. Moreover, granting that request will not cause any further delays in the current procedural schedule.

WHEREFORE, Verizon MA respectfully requests that the Department grant this request and extend the date for filing reply comments to May 19, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

VERIZON MASSACHUSETTS

By its attorney,

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Dated: May 8, 2003